

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior version and listings of claims in the application:

1-67. (Canceled)

68. (Currently amended) A method for ~~determining whether or not to allow a use of~~ controlling access to digital content, the method comprising:

~~storing with a first computing device defining a plurality of licenses for authorizing use of the content, the licenses being defined~~ from a configurable rule that is based at least in part on a user attribute;

receiving with a second computing device a request to use the content;

determining with the second computing device whether or not at least one of the plurality of licenses authorizes the requested use of the content;

responsive to said determination, allowing the requested use of the content if at least one of the plurality of licenses authorizes the requested use;
and

providing with a third computing device information on how to qualify for a license, if none of the plurality of licenses authorizes the use.

69. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the user attribute comprises the user's age.

70. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the user attribute comprises the user's residence.

71. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the user attribute comprises a payment method.

72. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein at least one of the plurality of licenses comprises at least one grant.

73. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the rule comprises a Boolean-based expression.

74. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein determining whether or not at least one of the plurality of licenses authorizes the requested use comprises comparing an entitlement requirement of at least one of the plurality of licenses against an attribute of a user who has made the request.

75. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 74, wherein determining whether or not at least one of the plurality of licenses authorizes the requested use comprises evaluating at least one Boolean expression.

76. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 75, wherein the Boolean expression comprises at least one argument based on the user attribute.

77. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the requested use comprises playback.

78. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the requested use is comprises copying to a compact disc.

79. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the requested use comprises copying to a digital video disc.

80. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the requested use comprises copying to a hard-drive.

81. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the requested use comprises downloading to a portable player.

82. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein the rule is dynamically reconfigurable.

83. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein at least one of the plurality of licenses is dynamically reconfigurable.

84. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68, wherein determining whether or not at least one of the plurality of licenses authorizes the requested use comprises determining whether or not a license grant has been obtained by a user who has made the request.

85. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68 wherein providing information on how to qualify for a license comprises providing a user attribute that would allow authorization of the requested use.

86. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 68 wherein providing information on how to qualify for a license comprises providing an amount of money that, if received, would allow authorization of the requested use.

87. (New) The method of claim 68 wherein the first and second computing devices are the same computing device.

88. (New) The method of claim 68 wherein the first, second and third computing devices are the same computing device.